



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 206

February Session, 2008

Substitute House Bill No. 5475

House of Representatives, March 26, 2008

The Committee on Transportation reported through REP. GUERRERA of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT ELIMINATING CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE FEES FOR
RECIPIENTS OF THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL OF THE UNITED
STATES MILITARY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-21d of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, at the request of any
4 member or former member of the armed forces, as defined in section
5 27-103, who is a former prisoner of war, shall register, without charge,
6 any passenger motor vehicle, camper or passenger and commercial
7 motor vehicle owned or leased by such person, provided no more than
8 two such registrations may be issued to any such person. The
9 commissioner shall issue a special certificate of registration and a
10 number plate or set of number plates in accordance with the
11 provisions of subsection (a) of section 14-21b for each such vehicle.
12 Each application for such special registration and number plate shall
13 be accompanied by proof from the Veterans' Administration of the

14 United States that such person is a former prisoner of war. The
15 surviving spouse of a former prisoner of war issued such special
16 registration may retain any such registration and number plates
17 without charge for his or her lifetime or until such time as he or she
18 remarries.

19 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, at the request of any
20 recipient of the congressional medal of honor, shall register, without
21 charge, any passenger motor vehicle, camper or passenger and
22 commercial motor vehicle owned or leased by such person, provided
23 no more than two such registrations may be issued to any such person.
24 The commissioner shall issue a special certificate of registration and a
25 number plate or set of number plates in accordance with the
26 provisions of subsection (a) of section 14-21b for each such vehicle. The
27 surviving spouse of a recipient of the congressional medal of honor
28 issued such special registration may retain any such registration and
29 number plates without charge for his or her lifetime or until such time
30 as he or she remarries.

31 (c) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, at the request of any
32 recipient of the purple heart medal of the United States military, shall
33 register, without charge, one passenger motor vehicle, camper or
34 passenger and commercial motor vehicle owned or leased by such
35 person. The commissioner shall issue a special certificate of
36 registration and a number plate or set of number plates in accordance
37 with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 14-21b for such vehicle.
38 The surviving spouse of a recipient of the purple heart medal of the
39 United States military issued such special registration may retain any
40 such registration and number plates without charge for his or her
41 lifetime or until such time as he or she remarries.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	14-21d
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VA *Joint Favorable C/R*

TRA

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue Loss	15,000	18,750

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill allows Purple Heart Medal recipients to apply for a waiver of fees for one motor vehicle registration. Currently, there is a Purple Heart Medal specialty motor vehicle plate designation. The plate fee is \$10 at the time of application. Under current law, Purple Heart Medal specialty plate holders are subject to the periodic registration fee. The fee is dependent on the type of vehicle the plate is assigned to.

A total of 300 motor vehicle Purple Heart designated plates have been issued to date. Passenger motor vehicle registration fee is \$75 for two years. A one year renewal fee is available for those who qualify. Since the bill provides for one vehicle registration fee waiver, assuming that there are 150 renewals per year plus 50 new applications each year, the fiscal impact for FY 09 is anticipated to be \$15,000. This estimate assumes that Purple Heart Medal specialty plate holders will request the waiver of the registration fee for the vehicle to which the plate is assigned to. The estimate also takes into consideration future eligible Purple Heart recipients of 50 per year will be requesting the waiver as well.

The Out Years

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 11 \$	FY 12 \$	FY 13 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue Loss	22,500	26,250	30,000

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5475*****AN ACT ELIMINATING CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE FEES FOR RECIPIENTS OF THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill creates a free special registration and license plate for Purple Heart medal recipients. Upon request, the motor vehicle commissioner must issue the registration and plate (or plates) for a passenger vehicle, camper, or passenger and commercial motor vehicle owned or leased by the requestor. A surviving spouse may keep the plates and registration, without charge, for life or until remarriage.

The commissioner must issue the special registration and plates in accordance with the existing law governing the issuance of license plates and registrations.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 10 Nay 0 (03/04/2008)

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/07/2008)